

27. GUIDELINES FOR AWARD CLASSIFICATION

- 27.1 The guidelines for award classification of BEng(Hons) in EIE and BSc(Hons) in EP are stated in the following. In using these guidelines, the respective Board of Examiners shall exercise its judgement in coming to its conclusions as to the award for each student, and where appropriate, may use other relevant information. The derivation of GPA for award classification for the respective degrees (particularly on the counting of subjects common to both degrees) will be decided by the Department offering the degree programme. The honours classification of the two degrees need not be identical.
- 27.2 This programme uses Weighted GPA as a guide for helping to determine award classifications. Subjects studied in Foundation Year will not be counted towards the Weighted GPA. Only subjects contained in the Year 1, Year 2, and Year 3 curricula will be counted towards the Weighted GPA.
- (i) BEng(Hons) in EIE award under the Full-time, Sandwich, CES, Double Degree and Double Degree Sandwich modes.

Weighted GPA will be computed as follows:

$$\text{Weighted GPA} = \frac{\sum_n \text{Subject Grade Point} \times \text{Subject Credit Value} \times W_i}{\sum_n \text{Subject Credit Value} \times W_i}$$

where $W_i = 0.2$ for all level 2 subjects, and

$W_i = 0.4$ for all Level 3, and Level 4 and Level 5 subjects.

n = number of subjects counted towards the award as listed in Table 4.1 under the respective mode of study according to the Specified Progression Pattern (Section 5) (inclusive of failed subjects) taken by the student up to and including the latest semester, but for subjects which have been retaken, only the grade obtained in the final attempt will be included in the GPA calculation except those exclusions specified in Section 27.3.

Same as GPA, Weighted GPA is capped at 4.0.

- (ii) BSc(Hons) in EP award under the Double Degree and Double Degree sandwich mode.

$$\text{Weighted GPA} = \frac{\sum_n \text{Subject Grade Point} \times \text{Subject Credit Value} \times W_i}{\sum_n \text{Subject Credit Value} \times W_i}$$

where $W_i = 0.18$ for all level 2 subjects, and

$W_i = 0.27$ for all Level 3 subjects, and

$W_i = 0.55$ for all Level 4.

n = number of subjects counted towards the award as listed in Table 4.1 under the respective mode of study according to the Specified Progression Pattern (Section 5) (inclusive of failed subjects) taken by the student up to and including the latest semester, but for subjects which have been retaken, only the grade obtained in the final attempt will be included in the GPA calculation except those exclusions specified in Section 27.3.

Same as GPA, Weighted GPA is capped at 4.0.

27.3 Any subjects passed after the graduation requirement has been met or subjects taken on top of the prescribed credit requirements for award shall not be taken into account in the grade point calculation for award classification. However, if a student attempts more elective subjects (or optional subjects) than those required for graduation in or before the semester in which he/she becomes eligible for award, the elective subjects (or optional subjects) with a higher grade/contribution shall be included in the grade point calculation (i.e. the excessive subjects attempted with a lower grade/contribution, including failed subjects, will be excluded.)

27.4 Classification of Awards

27.4.1 The followings are guidelines for the Board for Examiners' reference in determining award classifications:

Award Classification	Guidelines
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1 st	The student's performance/attainment is outstanding, and identifies him/her as exceptionally able in the field covered by the programme in question.
2 nd (Division I)	The student has reached a standard of performance/attainment which is more than satisfactory but less than outstanding.
2 nd (Division II)	The student has reached a standard of performance/attainment judged to be satisfactory, and clearly higher than the 'essential minimum' required for graduation.
3 rd	The student has attained the 'essential minimum' required for graduation at a standard ranging from just adequate to just satisfactory.

27.4.2 Under exceptional circumstances, a student who has completed an Honours degree programme, but has not attained Honours standard, may be awarded a Pass-without-Honours degree. A Pass-without-Honours degree award will be recommended, when the student has demonstrated a level of final attainment which is below the 'essential minimum' required for graduation with Honours from the programme in question, but when he/she has nonetheless covered the prescribed work of the programme in an adequate fashion, while failing to show sufficient evidence of the intellectual calibre expected of Honours degree graduates. For example, if a student in an Honours degree programme has a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 or more, but his/her Weighted GPA is less than 2.0, he/she may be considered for a Pass-without-Honours classification. A Pass-without-Honours is an unclassified award, but the award parchment will not include this specification.

27.4.3 The following is a set of indicators, for the Board of Examiners' reference, which can be used in helping to determine award classification:

Award Classification	Weighted GPA
1 st	3.7 ⁺ - 4
2 nd (Division I)	3.2 ⁺ - 3.7
2 nd (Division II)	2.3 ⁺ - 3.2
3 rd	2.0 - 2.3

Note: "+" sign denotes 'equal to or more than'; "-" sign denotes 'less than'.

27.4.4 There is no requirement for the Board of Examiners to produce an award list which conforms to the guidelines in Section 27.4.3 above.